

State Retiree, Annuitant and Survivor Benefits Handbook Amendment

(Amendment VII)

This document is an amendment to the State of Illinois Retiree, Annuitant and Survivor Benefits Handbook released in October 2011 and revised periodically. An amendment adds, modifies, deletes or otherwise changes a benefit listed in the Benefits Handbook. As changes occur, the online handbook will be modified to reflect the changes. Those updates and changes will be included in this amendment document as they occur. If you have a printed copy of the online handbook, you should refer to this amendment to ensure you have the most up-to-date information.

STATE RETIREE, ANNUITANT AND SURVIVOR AMENDMENT – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015 (POSTED 07/01/2015)

The following amend the Benefits Handbook, effective July 1, 2015:

1. Language has been added regarding moving out of county with HMO coverage (Page 4 - Your Responsibilities)
2. Language was added to the Qualifying Change in Status section to include the move of an eligible dependent to a foreign country (Page 11 - Qualifying Change in Status)
3. Annuitant and survivors electing to opt out of health coverage (which includes the termination of vision and prescription coverage) will remain enrolled in the dental and life insurance coverage. Members who opt out of the health coverage and do not want the dental coverage may only elect to opt out of the dental coverage during the annual Benefit Choice Period (Page 17 - Opting Out of Coverage)
4. When an HMO member's PCP leaves the plan's network, the member will only be allowed to change health plans if the HMO network experienced a significant change in the number of medical providers offered (Page 30 - HMOs)
5. Per the Affordable Care Act, out-of-pocket maximums for HMO and OAP plans now include prescription coverage (Pages 30 and 31 - HMOs and OAPs Out-of-Pocket Maximums)
6. Per the Affordable Care Act, out-of-pocket maximums for the Quality Care Health Plan now include prescription coverage (Page 32 - Out-of-Pocket Maximum)
7. The DAW, Dispense As Written, penalty has been clarified to read that if a plan participant elects a brand name drug and a generic is available, the cost difference between the brand product and the generic product, plus the brand copayment will be incurred (Page 45 - Prescription Coverage Overview)
8. Additional dental exclusions listed (18, 19 and 20) (Page 51 - Dental Exclusions and Limitations)
9. If you do not enroll in Medicare Part A, as well as Part B, you will be responsible for the portion of your healthcare costs that Medicare would have covered (Pages 59 and 60 - Medicare Overview and Failure to Enroll in Medicare)
10. External review decisions of medical appeals will be final and binding on all parties under the self-insured plans (which include the Quality Care Health Plan, Coventry OAP and HealthLink OAP). The previous final level, the CMS Appeal Committee, is no longer available (Page 66 - Medical Appeals)
11. The consumer assistance Claims Appeal address and contact information have changed (Page 67 - Assistance with the Appeal Process)